



RPA Meeting Site Move Confirmed • ROPEX Also Moves
2012 Membership Recruitment • Buy, Sell, Trade
Birthday Plans • Election Time Nears
Upcoming Meetings

Articles from members for this publication are welcomed!

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RPA Meeting Site Move Confirmed



It's now confirmed—we are definitely moving our permanent meeting site to the Brighton Reformed Church, 805 Blossom Road. We will be in one of the downstairs meeting rooms with our club library stored nearby.

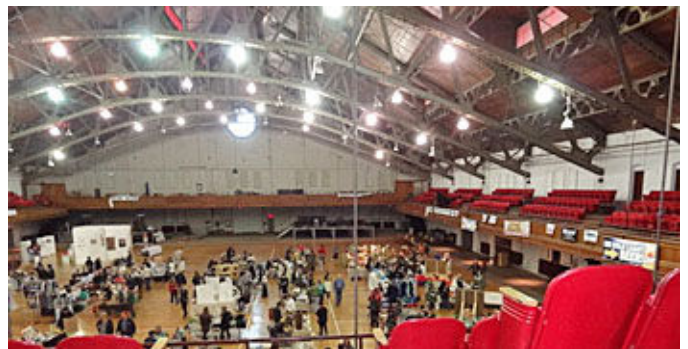
ROPEX Also Moves

Two weeks before Thanksgiving we heard some rather disruptive news. The Sports Center called to say that their main ice rink (i.e. our ROPEX venue) would remain with ice throughout 2013 as they renovated two of the other three rinks in the building.

Several members of the ROPEX Committee then began the work to find an alternate site large enough to stage our giant combined ROPEX/NTSS 2013 show and within the budget of both the RPA and American Topical Association. Two sites were eventually considered, one of them the Roberts Wesleyan College gym about a 30 minute drive away.



In the end the best solution was the Main Street Armory at 900 East Main Street in the city. The massive castle-like fortress was originally the headquarters for western New York's 3rd Army Battalion in 1905. In the process of being fully renovated, it now offers a 40,000 square foot hardwood main floor with Wi-Fi Internet access, several meeting rooms and a soon to open restaurant, all on the first floor alone. The facility is handicap accessible by using a ramp in the rear of the building. Free parking is available in a lot across the street.



As Rick Kase put it, "It's about 90% of what we wanted." Of course, nothing is perfect. We will need extra RPA member help with setup of the

exhibit frames, tables and chairs, and electrical plugs and extensions. Dealers won't be able to drive on the floor up to their tables, so they can also use help moving in and out.

Overall, the Armory will offer its challenges, but none are insurmountable and the show will go on! Special thanks to Phil Minaric, Dave Robinson, Bob Kingston and Bob Lighthouse for their assistance in making this change a reality.

In Other ROPEX News...



Stamp Camp is definitely coming to ROPEX with a series of three seminars for youngsters interested in learning about our hobby. RPA members are invited to register kids ages 8-15 to attend these free workshops. Openings are available two of the days, Saturday, May 18 from 10-4 and Sunday 10-2:30.

Submit participant names to any RPA officer. Acceptances are on a first-come basis, with each course limited to 20 kids.

By the way, the Design-A-Stamp competition is open to anyone in grades 3-12. For an entry form and rules, see our ROPEX web site.

2012 Membership Recruitment

We welcomed 16 new members into the club throughout calendar year 2012, bringing our current membership to an even 100 as the year ends. Welcome again to:

Donald Brumbaugh, Robert DeLena, Jack Enicson, Fred Haynes, Anthony Labrum, John Laszak, Mark Lerner, Robert Looney, Scott Martz, Robert McCormick, Sean O'Brien, John and Eileen Rogers, Mary Smith, John van der Ven and Claude van Volkenburg.

Buy, Sell, Trade

Submit a free 50 word Buy/Sell/ Trade ad for our web site to stamptmf@frontiernet.net.

Hinges & Tongs

Birthday Plans



Invitations will be mailed in early February for the club's 100th anniversary dinner on March 12. It is very important that you respond as soon as possible if you plan to attend.

Election Time Nears

Two-year terms for the positions of RPA President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be up for grabs in the May/June election.

Nominations are being accepted for these posts through April 15. Inform any of the officers of your interest.

Upcoming Meetings

All meetings as of January will be held downstairs at the Brighton Reformed Church, 805 Blossom Road beginning at 7 PM. An elevator is available for handicapped members.

Thursday, December 13... "Woldenberg POW Philately- Part 1" by Ray Stone
Thursday, January 10... "Woldenberg POW Philately- Part 2" by Ray Stone
Thursday, January 24... TBA
Thursday, February 14... TBA
Thursday, February 28... TBA

As you can see, our Winter semester is somewhat light in programs! If you have a program you'd like to present, please contact any of the RPA officers.



*To You and Your
Family this Holiday...
Have a Happy and
Healthy New Year!*